

fully incorporated into their actual communities, with the same rights and duties.

Support the proposal of a far-reaching guest workers scheme, which should be one of the parts of a larger process that includes the attention of the undocumented Mexicans that live in the United States.

In order for a guest workers program to be viable, Mexico should participate in its design management supervision and evaluation, under the principle of shared responsibility.

A scheme aimed to process the legal temporary flow of persons, will allow Mexico and the United States to better combat criminal organizations specialized in the smuggling of migrants and the use of false documents, and to combat, in general, the violence and the insecurity that prevail in the shared border. Likewise, Mexico would be in a better position to exhort potential migrants to abide by the proper rules and to adopt measures in order to reduce undocumented migration.

Mexico should conclude the studies that are being conducted to know which tasks will help with the implementation of a guest workers program, regarding the proper management of the supply of potential participants, the establishment of supporting, certification mechanisms, and the supervision and evaluation of its development.

Mexico acknowledges that a crucial aspect for the success of a temporary workers program refers to the capacity to guarantee the circular flow of the participants, as well as the development of incentives that encourage migrants to return to our country. Mexico could significantly enhance its tax-preferred housing programs, so that migrants can construct a house in their home communities while they work in the United States.

Other mechanisms that should be developed are the establishment of a bilateral medical insurance system to cover migrants and their relatives, as well as the agreement of totalization of pension benefits, which will allow Mexicans working in the United States to collect their pension benefits in Mexico.

Mexico could also enhance the programs of its Labor and Social Development Ministries, in order to establish social and working conditions that encourage and ease the return and reincorporation of Mexicans into their home communities.

This working group aims to become a permanent body of study, debate and development of public policies for the handling of the migration phenomenon.

NOMINATION OF GORDON ENGLAND

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I support the nomination of Gordon England to the position of Deputy Secretary of Defense.

Secretary England has been the Department's problem-solver for the last 5 years. In this brief period of time, he has served as Secretary of the Navy, Deputy Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, Secretary of the Navy again, and—after being under consideration to serve as Secretary of the Air Force—as Deputy Secretary of Defense. At the request of the Secretary of Defense, he has also taken on such critical jobs as designing the new National Security Personnel System and overseeing the review of the status of DOD detainees at Guantanamo.

Secretary England has always made himself available for hearings, meet-

ings with Members, and discussions with the wide array of others who have interests and concerns about the operations and activities of the Department of Defense. He is a good listener, open to compromise, willing to take on tough problems—characteristics which are always in great demand and short supply at DOD.

The Deputy Secretary of Defense serves in a position of awesome responsibility. He is the alter ego of the Secretary. In this capacity, the Deputy Secretary plays a key role in determining how our country will face critical national security challenges.

At the same time, the Deputy Secretary of Defense has traditionally served as the chief manager of the Defense Department. A wide array of management challenges, including financial management, acquisition management, and human capital issues, cut across functional areas in the Department to such an extent that no official other than the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary has the authority needed to address them.

Fortunately, Secretary England brings the kind of strong management background and commitment to addressing these issues that are needed in the Deputy Secretary position.

For the last several months, Secretary England has served as Deputy Secretary of Defense under a recess appointment by the President. I believe that his service to the Department and the Nation over the last 5 years merit a favorable vote on his nomination by the full Senate.

U.S. DECISION ON UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I wish to express my regret that the administration has decided to decline the opportunity for candidacy on the newly formed U.N. Human Rights Council. I supported the creation of the Human Rights Council because I believe that we need to create a system where human rights abusers are held accountable for the atrocities they commit. It was for that same reason that there was overwhelming international support for the creation of the Human Rights Council.

In choosing not to join the council, the U.S. Government has signaled its intention to address worldwide human rights abuses unilaterally. This decision will damage U.S. credibility when weighing in on the human rights debates of the future and further isolate the United States from multilateral decisions.

Human rights abuses should be addressed through an international strategy to ensure that there are internationally agreed-upon standards to protect all members of society. I am deeply concerned that the administration's decision will undermine our human rights agenda, rather than advance it.

I have repeatedly expressed my concern about the approach to the U.N.

taken by this administration and am further disappointed by this most recent decision. The U.N. is by no means perfect, but a world without a global human rights body would be a more dangerous one for people everywhere and would serve to undermine fundamental U.S. interests.

I urge the administration to reconsider its decision.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF EUREKA, CALIFORNIA

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. I wish to take this opportunity to recognize the city of Eureka as it prepares to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the city's formation.

The city of Eureka has a long history and often parallels California's past. Founded during the time of the gold rush, it became an important port city for northern California's logging and commercial fishing industries because of its proximity to a rich supply of natural resources. Eureka was incorporated on April 18, 1856, and was designated by the State legislature as the county seat for Humboldt County.

On a more personal note, Eureka is an important part of my family's history. My mother's family left St. Petersburg during the Russian Revolution and traveled by cart through Siberia and boarded a boat finally landing in Eureka.

Today, with a population of over 25,000, Eureka is a city on the move and the cultural center of the California's north coast region. It is the destination for many people wanting to explore miles of unspoiled coastline and visit the world-famous coastal redwoods that are within close proximity of the city.

The city's famed historic architecture has been preserved, earning it the designation as a "Victorian Seaport." The historic Eureka Inn is currently undergoing renovations that will make it once again the center of many community events such as the location of the city's Christmas celebrations.

I congratulate the city of Eureka on your special day and extend my regards to all of the citizens who will be celebrating this important milestone in the city's history. You should feel proud of your past, and I wish you the very best in the future. •

RECOGNITION OF ASIL

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the American Society of International Law, ASIL, on its 100th anniversary celebrated on January 12, 2006.

The ASIL was founded in 1906 as a nonprofit, nonpartisan association to advance the study of international law and encourage the establishment and